

ABSTRACT

A starwheel feed apparatus and method for feeding and guiding sheets of a web material into a starwheel assembly. In some embodiments, a feeding conveyor is movable to convey sheets at a first velocity toward the starwheel, and a guiding conveyor is located adjacent the starwheel and has a conveying surface movable at a velocity less than the first velocity. In other embodiments, other relative speeds of the guiding and feeding conveyors are employed. In some embodiments, a feeding conveyor feeds sheets into slots of a starwheel, and a guiding conveyor located adjacent the starwheel has a conveying surface to guide trailing edges of the sheets along a length of the conveying surface as the sheets enter the slots.